AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) In a process comprising at least one activity, a computer implemented method for performing an activity, comprising:

an application proxy receiving a message, from a process management engine, to perform an activity which calls for invocation of a service provided by a service application, said service being invocable using a protocol, and said service, when invoked, provides one or more results of performing said service;

the application proxy obtaining a service definition for said service, wherein the service definition comprises mapping information that maps one or more attributes associated with said activity to one or more parameters used by said service, wherein said service definition for said service comprises an indication that said protocol is to be used to invoke said service;

the application proxy selecting a first set of logic, from a plurality of sets of logic, based upon said indication in said service definition for said service, wherein said first set of logic implements said protocol;

the application proxy executing said first set of logic which implements said protocol to generate a service invocation, wherein said service invocation is generated based upon, at least a portion of, said mapping information in the service definition, and is in compliance with said protocol;

the application proxy sending said service invocation to said service application to invoke said service;

the application proxy receiving a reply from said service application which comprises said one or more results; and

the application proxy providing at least a portion of said one or more results to said process management engine to complete performance of said activity.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said protocol is an industry standard protocol.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said protocol is SOAP (simple object access protocol).

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said protocol is ebXML.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said activity has an activity definition associated therewith, and wherein said activity definition comprises said service definition.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said service definition comprises an indication that said protocol is to be used to invoke said service.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said service definition comprises access information for accessing said service.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said access information comprises a URI (universal resource identifier).

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said access information comprises a service name.

10-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the activity is a first activity, wherein said protocol is a first protocol, wherein the service application is a first service application, the message is a first message, wherein the service is a first service, wherein the one or more results of performing said first service is a first set of one or more results of performing said first service, wherein said service invocation is a first service invocation, and the method further comprises:

the application proxy receiving a second message to perform a second activity which calls for invocation of a second service provided by a second service application, wherein said second service, when invoked, provides a second set of one or more results of performing said second service;

the application proxy obtaining a service definition for said second service, said service definition for said second service comprising an indication that a second protocol is to be used to invoke said second service;

the application proxy selecting a second set of logic based upon said indication in said service definition for said second service, said second set of logic implementing said second protocol;

the application proxy executing said second set of logic to generate a second service invocation, wherein said second service invocation is generated based upon at least a portion of said service definition for said second service, and is in compliance with said second protocol;

the application proxy sending said second service invocation to said second service application to invoke said second service;

the application proxy receiving a reply from said second service application which comprises said second set of one or more results; and

the application proxy providing at least a portion of said second set of one or more results to said process management engine to complete performance of said second activity.

14. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform an activity, said computer readable medium comprising:

instructions for causing one or more processors to receive, at an application proxy, a message, from a process management engine, to perform an activity which calls for invocation of a service provided by a service application, said service being invocable using a protocol, and said service, when invoked, provides one or more results of performing said service;

instructions for causing one or more processors to obtain, at the application proxy, a service definition for said service, wherein the service definition comprises mapping information that maps one or more attributes associated with said activity to one or more parameters used by

said service, wherein said service definition for said service comprises an indication that said protocol is to be used to invoke said service;

instructions for causing one or more processors to select, at the application proxy, a first set of logic, from a plurality of sets of logic, based upon said indication in said service definition for said service, wherein said first set of logic implements said protocol;

instructions for causing one or more processors to execute, at the application proxy, said first set of logic which implements said protocol to generate a service invocation, wherein said service invocation is generated based upon, at least a portion of, mapping information in the said service definition, and is in compliance with said protocol;

instructions for causing one or more processors to send, at the application proxy, said service invocation to said service application to invoke said service;

instructions for causing one or more processors to ~~receiving~~ receive, at the application proxy, a reply from said service application which comprises said one or more results; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to ~~providing~~ provide, at the application proxy, at least a portion of said one or more results to said process management engine to complete performance of said activity.

15. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein said protocol is an industry standard protocol.

16. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein said protocol is SOAP (simple object access protocol).

17. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein said protocol is ebXML.

18. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein said activity has an activity definition associated therewith, and wherein said activity definition comprises said service definition.

19. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein said service definition comprises an indication that said protocol is to be used to invoke said service.

20. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein said service definition comprises access information for accessing said service.

21. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said access information comprises a URL (universal resource locator).

22. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said access information comprises a service name.

23-25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the activity is a first activity, wherein said protocol is a first protocol, wherein the service application

is a first service application, the message is a first message, wherein the service is a first service, wherein the one or more results of performing said first service is a first set of one or more results of performing said first service, wherein said service invocation is a first service invocation, and wherein the computer readable medium further comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to receive, at the application proxy, a second message to perform a second activity which calls for invocation of a second service provided by a second service application, wherein said second service, when invoked, provides a second set of one or more results of performing said second service;

instructions for causing one or more processors to obtain, at the application proxy, a service definition for said second service, said service definition for said second service comprising an indication that a second protocol is to be used to invoke said second service;

instructions for causing one or more processors to select, at the application proxy, a second set of logic based upon said indication in said service definition for said second service, said second set of logic implementing said second protocol;

instructions for causing one or more processors to execute, at the application proxy, said second set of logic to generate a second service invocation, wherein said second service invocation is generated based upon at least a portion of said service definition for said second service, and is in compliance with said second protocol;

instructions for causing one or more processors to send, at the application proxy, said second service invocation to said second service application to invoke said second service;

instructions for receiving, at the application proxy, a reply from said second service application which comprises said second set of one or more results; and

instructions for providing, at the application proxy, at least a portion of said second set of one or more results to said process management engine to complete performance of said second activity.